

THE WEEKLY UNION TIMES.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic Economy, Polite Literature, Politics, and the Current News of the Day.

VOL. XVII.—NEW SERIES.

UNION C. H., SOUTH CAROLINA, JUNE 4, 1886.

NUMBER 22.

SENATOR BUTLER ON FREE TRADE.

A GRADUAL REDUCTION IN THE TARIFF FAVORED BUT NOT ABSOLUTE FREE TRADE—THE ABOLITION OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SYSTEM ADVOCATED.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 20, 1886.

Prof. R. Means Davis, Chairman Executive Committee Free Trade Association of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C.

MY DEAR SIR: Some time ago I received from you the following letter: [Senator Butler then quotes the letter sent him by the Free Trade Association on the 4th of March.]

Recognizing the right of your association or any other number of respectable citizens of South Carolina to know my opinions on all questions affecting the public interest, I cheerfully respond in this form, not having the time for public addresses as suggested by your letter.

You will permit me to say, in passing, I am much pleased at the prospect of a full discussion of this most vital subject, about which so little is understood, and I trust it will be conducted in a spirit of candor and toleration worthy of the topic, and free from those unseemly personalities and aspersions which of late enter into controversy that arises. It does not strengthen the force of any man's argument or views to impugn the motives or sincerity of those who differ with him, but often degrades the controversy and leads to pernicious consequences.

The question of taxation is, and has always been, one of the most difficult and complicated problems of civil government. Taxation is a necessary evil, and how to lay taxes, and where, and when, upon what objects and persons, so as to make the evil as light and as little burdensome as possible, and operate with justice and fairness, has always been most perplexing and troublesome to the minds of those whose duty it has been and is to deal with the subject.

When it comes to determine what shall be the objects of direct taxation, you are constantly confronted with complications and difficulties. In South Carolina we have the *ad valorem* system, which appears to be the fairest and most simple, that is, that a man shall pay according to the value of his property; and yet there is always room for complaint of under valuation or unequal valuation, whether you should tax mortgages and at the same time the thing mortgaged, choses in action, moneys in hand, &c.

These and others of a kindred character are all subjects that have baffled the best intellects of the ablest statesmen and political economists of this and every civilized country. The internal or excise system of Federal direct taxation has always been the most odious of all forms. The army of agents and inspectors, employed to prevent and detect fraud on the public revenues are oppressive to the people and unrepugnant under the mildest form of administration. The powers of the Federal and State governments in regard to taxation, except as to imposts, are concurrent. Both may tax the same object at the same time, and each must have its own agents, separate and distinct, to collect taxes for the support of each. Under the "Articles of Confederation" it was found that the Federal government could not rely upon the States for the resources and revenues for its support, and hence, chiefly, the necessity for the "more perfect Union," formed under the present Constitution. So that, when we talk about supporting the government by a system of direct taxation, you perceive some of the obstacles in the way. As I have observed, all forms of taxation are onerous and vexatious, and the vital question is, which is the least so?

I have been led to submit these observations from a passage in your letter in which you say:

"We have, therefore, resolved to urge upon the people of South Carolina in public meetings the propriety of demanding of Congress a speedy abolition of the artificial barriers and governmental tollgates by which the traffic of the world is diverted from its natural channels, and man is deprived by man of his God-given right to receive the fullest returns to his labor."

If you mean by this the abandonment of the system of laying taxes on merchandise imported from foreign countries and abolition of custom houses, I cannot join you in the demand. The collection of duties on imports has been in practice from the foundation of the government, and is much the safest and most efficient mode of securing revenue for the support of the government. Congress has rarely availed itself of that power under the Constitution which provides that direct taxation "shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers"—

never except on occasions of great emergency, as at the beginning of the late war.

The framers of the Constitution evidently calculated that duties on imports would be the chief reliance for revenue, because by the second clause of the tenth Section of Article I. it is provided that "no State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports except," &c., &c., clearly showing that this power was left exclusively for the Federal government.

Direct taxation was resorted to by the Federal government at the beginning of the late war, and many of our best and most respected citizens in the low Counties can testify to the spoliation and confiscation under it, which made them paupers.

The present internal revenue system of direct taxation is a heritage of the war, and if I had the power I would wipe out the last vestige of it, as I would the war tariff and imposts.

If, on the other hand, you mean by this expression the tariff laws should be so equitably and fairly readjusted as to raise the necessary revenue for the support of the government, and at the same time as nearly as may be operate upon all alike, I will unite most cordially with you. How that can be best and justly done is a very grave problem. About the sum of \$300,000,000 must be raised annually by taxation—partly internal and partly external. Of this sum \$181,500,000 in round numbers was raised by duties on imports, \$112,500,000 by internal revenue taxation, and the balance of the \$323,500,000 (total ordinary receipts) was derived from sales of public lands, patent fees, taxes on national banks, seigniorage at the mint, &c.

Now the present consideration is how can this \$181,500,000 derived from imports be so imposed as to bear lightest upon consumers, or how can it be levied to raise the necessary revenue and unfetter trade and commerce. Many of the industries of this country have grown up under the stimulating or speculative influence of a high tariff, protective in many instances, and yet raising large revenues, prohibitory in others, and not bringing a dollar into the treasury. As unjust as this is and has been to the unprotected classes, it would not be wise or proper to knock the props from under such industries with one blow and bring them down in a crash. It would be more unwise and wrong to continue this condition of things. What then is to be done?

My idea is that tariff taxation should be gradually and surely reduced until we have reached the point when each article will produce the largest amount of revenue, and then leave off, transferring from time to time such articles to the free list as should be found from experience to be most conveniently spared from the revenue list. Take for instance the article of sugar. I insist that the present tax of 11 cents a pound—the average—is the revenue standard, because it raises about \$50,000,000 annually, paid into the treasury on a total value of \$73,500,000 worth imported—70.98 per cent. *ad valorem*.

It is claimed that this tax is protection to the sugar planter. Grant it. So much the better for the sugar planter, and that is what I call incidental protection. He receives a very small percentage of protection, while the Treasury is replenished with the tax.

And so it is with rice, which pays into the Treasury \$1,619,523.24 on a total value of \$2,134,188.74 imported, 75.88 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Now let me call attention to the duty on cotton ties, as that is an article with which all of our people are familiar. The duty on cotton ties prior to the last tariff revision was 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, and that is the duty to-day. It pays its share of revenue into the Treasury at that rate. Just what the amount is I will not stop to inquire, but I may say this is a very fair duty.

The Tariff Commission recommended an increase of 50 per cent. on cotton ties, which would have made 85 per cent. What would have been the effect of this? Not a cotton tie would have been imported, and consequently not a dollar would have been collected on this article for the Treasury, because the tariff would have been absolutely prohibitory. But about \$800,000 would have been paid by the farmers into the pockets of five or six hoop iron manufacturers in Pennsylvania, not a dollar into the Treasury. The 50 per cent. was not added because it was stricken out of the bill, and of course this did not happen, but I advert to it to illustrate in a striking manner how iniquitous a high protective prohibitory tariff is.

There are many articles on the list just as glaring as this threatened to be, and it is to rectify such wrongs and equalities

that every fair-minded man ought to address himself. Your association can accomplish much in that direction by an enlightened agitation and discussion of the subject. It is a great fallacy to suppose the country prospers or that labor is protected by a high tariff.

Just the reverse is true, and in my opinion the recent stagnation and depression in business, and the restlessness, dissatisfaction and unhappy condition of the laboring classes in this country are due largely to the present high rate of taxation. The duty on imported merchandise entered for consumption in the United States is 48,660 per centage *ad valorem* on dutiable articles, higher than in 1867, when it was 46,667 per cent.; higher than it has ever been from 1791 to 1885, except in 1824, '25, '26 and '27, when it reached 50.21, 50.54, 49.26 and 53.76 per cent. respectively, and 1829 and '30, when it went up to 54.18 and 61.69 respectively, which latter provoked the Nullification agitation in South Carolina. The compromise measures that grew out of this agitation reduced the tariff gradually until it had gone down to 25.81 in 1842. We are now paying higher tariff taxes than what were known as "war taxes" of 1865 (66.67 and 68 per cent.) accumulating a large surplus in the treasury every year, which must lead to profligacy and extravagance. It encourages the most disgraceful squandering of money on so-called pensions, public buildings, rivers and harbors, so-called aid to popular education, subsidies to steamships, railroads, &c., &c.; all of which is wrong, demoralizing and pernicious.

Is there patriotism enough in the country to reduce the war taxation and relieve the tax payers of these unnecessary burdens? We shall see. And I rely confidently on the efforts of your association to contribute largely to that end.

Very respectfully,
M. C. BUTLER.

CULTIVATING CORN.—He who says that shallow cultivation or deep cultivation is always the best for corn, that the double diamond or the toothed cultivator should always be used, simply shows that while he may be able to give corn on his own land the proper cultivation, he is not fit to instruct his neighbors. Cultivation should vary with the soil, the season and the stage of growth of the plant. Further, while I am thoroughly convinced that in general the toothed or shovel cultivator should be used rather than the double diamonds, I am yet certain that in some seasons the use of the latter is the better.

Each person must exercise his own judgment, and yet there are some general principles to aid in reaching a decision. Thus, upon heavy, clayey soils the cultivation should be deeper than upon light, sandy ones. On the former deep cultivation is necessary because without it soils will not warm enough, and where cultivation does not reach the ground will be so solid that roots will hardly penetrate. Deep cultivation in such soils is also essential to proper drainage, and stagnant water in the soil is always hurtful. But in light, sandy soils deep cultivation, instead of being beneficial, will be hurtful. For these are liable to be too dry, and deep cultivation will break them up until the sun and air will take away too much of their moisture. Shallow cultivation is better, for it will not release the moisture drawn from below by capillary attraction. For the same reason shallow cultivation is best suited to a dry season, and it should be frequent. Per contra, deep cultivation is best in a wet season. For it will tend to dry the soil. But it must be understood that deep cultivation is meant to be deeper on a heavy soil than on a light one, always. And always a heavy soil should be plowed deep, no matter what the season may be.

On heavy soils, especially if the spring is cold and wet, the double diamonds should be run close to the corn as soon as it is two or three inches high. The plow should be set to run rather deep. This will leave the corn on a narrow ridge, and also throw the middle ground into a high ridge. Both will dry rapidly and warm up rapidly; the roots of the corn will not be injured, and it will assume a darker green and grow thrifter than if the shovel cultivator is used, which leaves the surface level, with the cold, wet earth all around the corn. After a day or two the earth should be put back, using a cultivator. Unless the ground is very cold or the season very wet, the diamonds should be used but once. The latter cultivation should be level and shallow also, unless there is some good reason for making it deeper, as given above. Ridging the dirt high up against the corn at the last can never, in my opinion, be recommended. In the above I take no account of the hoe, as its office in the corn field is well understood.—*Cor. Weekly Press.*

[Published by Request.

A GRAND AND HEROIC POEM.

On the train that bore Mr. Davis and his party from Montgomery to Atlanta, a letter was handed to Mr. Davis, which he read long and earnestly. Handing it to Mayor Hillyer, he said:

"This is from Paul Hayne. It is a grand and heroic poem."

Mayor Hillyer then read as follows:
The sounds of tumult have ceased to ring,
And the battle's sun has set;
Forget the torture that thrilled to tears
The angel's calm in heaven.

Forget the rage of the hostile years,
From the hills to the broad sea waves;
But mournful and low are the winds that blow,
By the slopes of a thousand graves.

We may scourge from the spirit all thought of ill
In the midnight of grief held fast;
And yet, O brothers, be loyal still
To the sacred and stainless past!

She is glancing now from the vapor and cloud,
From the waning mansion of Mars,
And the pride of her beauty is wanly bowed,
And her eyes are misty stars!

And she speaks in a voice that is as sad as death,
"There is duty still to be done,
Tho' the trumpet of onset has spent his breath
And the battle been lost and won!"

And she points with a tremulous hand below,
To the wasted and worn array
Of the heroes who strove in the morning glow,
Of the grandeur that crowned "the Gray."

O, God, they came not as once they came
In the magic year of yore;
For the trenchant sword and the soul of flame,
Shall quiver and flash no more!

Alas! for the broken and battered hosts;
Fall wrecks from a gory sea,
Tho' pale as a band from the realm of ghosts,
Salute them! they fought with Lee.

And gloried when dauntless Stonewall marched
Like a giant o'er field and flood,
When the bow of his splendid victories arched
The tempest whose rain is blood.

Salute them! those wistful and sunken eyes
Flashed lightning of sacred fire,
When the laughing blue of the Southland skies
Was blasted with cloud and fire!

Salute them! their voices so faint to-day,
Were once the thunder of strife,
In the storm of the hottest and wildest fray,
That ever has mocked at life!

Not vanquished, but crushed by a mystic fate,
Blind nations against them hurled,
But the selfish might and the causeless hate,
Of the banded and ruthless world!

Enough; all Fates are the servants of God,
And follows His guiding hand;
We shall rise some day from the chastener's rod,
Shall waken, and understand!

But hark, to the east as she murmurs "Come,
Tho' mute is the drum, and the bugle is dumb,
And the battle is lost and won!"

No palace is here for the heroes' needs,
With its shining portals apart;
Shall they find the peace of their "Invalids,"
O, South! in your grateful heart!

A Refuge of welcome, with living halls,
And Love for its radiant dome,
Till the music of death's reveille calls
The souls of the warriors—home!

KEEPING FARM ACCOUNTS.—The farm account shows to the farmer at the end of the year, his profit which he views with pleasure, or his loss which produces an altogether different frame of mind. While the first may be the most agreeable, it is necessary that we know of the losses, if losses there are. The successful farming of the future will be book-farming; not only in the sense in which that term has been generally understood, but in addition the ledger and day book will be in constant use.

I believe that a farm account is necessary for successful farming. What is successful farming? I will give my definition. It is so tilling the soil and raising stock that with the proceeds of our labors we can pay all bills contracted on the farm, and still have a little left and our land in as good or better condition than it was at the beginning of the year.

I propose to divide the subject into three divisions, and hope to prove the necessity of keeping accounts, remove some of the obstacles in the way, and show some of the ways in which it can be done.

The average farmer says "we have what we have and no figuring will make it more or less;" true, but if we keep accounts with the different divisions of our business, and gather them on a balance sheet at the end of the year, we shall see where the losses have come in or the profits been made. As the general who has his army marshalled to attack the enemy is sometimes obliged to entirely change his line of action, so the farmer may sometimes be obliged to change his method of farming, either by raising different crops, cultivating them differently, or raising different kinds of stock, provided his account for each year, for a number of years, shows him it to be for the best. For this reason a farm account for ten or fifteen years, divided into, say, four divisions, viz.: dairy, sheep, swine and poultry, would be one of the best presents that a farmer could give to his son who was just starting for himself on a farm, for it might prevent him from changing his stock every time that the wind blew from an unfavorable quarter, for he could see by it that in different years different branches of his business brought the profits. An account with each farm crop enables us to see which our land is best adapted to. If we can make more raising grass than wheat, or oats than corn, or see that we can buy our butter and milk, poultry and eggs, and devote our time more profitably to the raising of the small fruits for market, it is not for our interest to do so although it be against the advice of our neighbors, and the traditions of our fathers? "Does farming pay?" is the question that we as practical farmers want answered, be the answer yes or nay.

FARMING IN SCOTLAND.—Working on a farm in Scotland is a different thing from farming here. There we have got to learn from a boy up as we have to handle all sorts of machinery. Some of the farms are 500 acres in extent and employ a man and double team for every 50 acres, so that on some, ten men are kept the year round. First-class men get from thirty to forty pounds a year and free house, fuel, &c.; second-class men get from £25 to £30 and so on down to the tenth man, with the understanding that only the foreman is married, the rest living in a room fixed off for them on the farm. In another article I will give a description of the help, their food, &c.

When I came to this country six years ago the old-fashioned way the majority of the farmers cultivated their lands, the piling up of stones in the fields and spreading them out again when ploughing, the slow laborious way in planting potatoes and other things, struck me as funny. On some of the larger farms in Scotland as many as 100 acres are planted in eight to ten days. Potatoes follow oats, and after the land is thoroughly harrowed two teams begin on one side of the field and with double mouldboard ploughs make drills 24 inches wide; then come the manure teams, two to three abreast, each throwing the manure into a single furrow as the horses walk along; after this persons with small forks spread the manure more evenly in the furrow. After the potatoes have been planted, which is done by a machine planting two rows at a time, the potatoes being out by hand first, two more teams split the drills right in the middle so as to cover the manure and seed, the drills being as straight as an arrow. When the potatoes are above ground they get one or two cultivations then are killed up again, (hardly any hoeing being done,) with the mould board plow. In the fall when harvesting we use a machine with two horses attached; beginning on one side of the field it takes one drill at a time and goes backward and forward throwing all the potatoes on the surface. There are a number of women stationed along the drills with small baskets which they fill and empty into larger ones which are removed by the teams as they get full. As many as six acres a day can be done this way. The machine is constructed so that it has two big driving wheels, one on either side of the drill; from the centre beam there is fastened a big steel coultter, which goes under the drill; a wheel with sixteen spokes revolves very rapidly right over the coultter throwing the potatoes and dirt against a strong netting side of it, the dirt passing through and the potatoes dropping in a row ready to be picked up.

Cordaville, Mass., April 5th, 1886.

A Western correspondent sends the following:

I recently listened to a debate in one of the school-rooms of this city, upon the novel and momentous question of "woman suffrage."

The debater upon the "anti-woman" side, was doubtless engaged in his first effort; and this fact, together with a slight impediment of speech, and a most original series of arguments, combined to produce one of the funniest and most unanswerable speeches that I had ever heard. Here it is, almost in full:

"Ladies and gentlemen, the first thing to find out is w-w-what man was m-made for, and what w-w-woman was made for. God created Adam first, and put him in the garden of Eden. T-then He made Eve, and p-put her there, too. If He hadn't c-created Eve, there never would have been all the s-s-sin there is now in this w-w-world. If He hadn't made Eve, she never would have p-p-picked the apple and eaten it. N-n-no, she never would have picked it and g-g-given it to Adam to eat. Paul, in his Epistles says w-w-women should k-k-keep still. And besides, l-ladies and gentlemen, women couldn't fill the offices. I d-d-defy any one to p-point out a woman in this city or c-county that could be a sheriff. Would a woman t-turn out in the dead of night to track and arrest a m-m-murderer? I say no! T-ten to one she would e-elope w-w-with him!"

And amid thunders of applause and laughter the gallant defender of man's rights triumphantly took his seat.—*Harper's Magazine for May.*

Montgomery, Ala., May 20.—Francis M. Taylor, Probate Judge of Winston County, was impeached in the Supreme Court of Alabama yesterday. It was charged that he willfully neglected to send in lists of the licenses issued and to pay over to the State the proceeds thereof. A plea of guilty was entered by the defendant through his counsel. The Court rendered a judgment deposing him from office.

Cattania, Sicily, May 20.—The eruption of Mt. Etna is increasing in proportions, and there is serious danger to the town of Monte Rosso from the flow of lava. Measures are being taken for the rescue of the inhabitants. Vast columns of flames are issuing from the crater of the volcano and present a most imposing spectacle.

The trustees of the Slater fund for the education of the colored people met in New York Wednesday. South Carolina will get \$2,700 of the fund, North Carolina \$3,600, Georgia \$5,100.

DOMESTIC RECIPES.

SUET PUDDING.—Take a pint of cream or new milk, three eggs well beaten with a little salt, grate in half a nutmeg. Mix your cream, eggs and nutmeg, stir as much flour in as will make it very stiff, then skin and shred half a pound of beef kidney suet very fine and small, and stir it in until all is very well mixed. Flour a cloth or butter it very well. Boil two hours.

A CINNAMON RICE PUDDING.—Take half a pound of rice, two quarts of new milk, half a pound of fresh butter, the same of currants, the same of stoned raisins. Butter your dish, throw half the rice over the bottom of it, then throw over your currants and raisins, then the rest of your rice. Melt your sugar in your milk, add a little salt, pour it in your dish, the butter at the top all over, grate some nutmeg over it and bake four hours at least.

BREAKFAST NO. 1

Best Corn Cake.

Creamed Pork. Baked Potatoes.

Cold White Bread.

Apple Sauce.

Coffee.

Best Corn Cake.—One egg, one-half cup of sugar, one cup of sweet milk, one cup of Indian meal, one cup of flour, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream-tartar. Bake in a square loaf or in a thin sheet in a dripping-pan, and cut in squares, or in small tins.

Creamed Pork.—Fry some thin slices of salt pork; when done pour all the fat out of the frying pan, leaving the pork in it; then pour a cupful of thin sweet cream over it, and let it just come to a boil.

Apple Sauce.—Soak good dried apple a few hours then stew carefully until soft, with a handful of raisins, or a few slices of lemon; keep it covered closely, and do not stir. Turn carefully out into a dish, keeping the slices unbroken, and serve when cool with powdered sugar, or sweeten while cooking.

BREAKFAST NO. 2

Plain Omelet.

Myra's Muffins. Dry Toast.

Lettuce.

Coffee.

A Plain Omelet.—Two eggs, four table-spoonfuls of milk, one-quarter teaspoonful salt, one-half tablespoonful of butter. Beat the yolks until creamy, add the milk and salt, and last the whites beaten to a stiff froth. Melt the butter in a small, smooth frying pan, and pour in the mixture; it should at once begin to bubble. Cook three or four minutes, slipping a knife under it now and then to prevent burning. When the top begins to set, fold it over and turn on to a small hot platter.

Myra's Muffins.—One egg, one-third of a cup of sugar, one teaspoonful of butter, two teaspoonfuls of cream-tartar, one teaspoonful of soda, one cup of milk, one and three-fourths cups of flour. Bake in small tins.

Lettuce.—This can now be had from the hot-bed. Keep it fresh and crisp in cold water. Break apart the leaves and arrange on a plate in the form of a rosette, the stems all meeting at the centre, and filling it in with the smaller leaves. Vinegar, sugar, or a made dressing are used as preferred.

The devil must not be allowed to monopolize all the fun or to do all the laughing. Piety does not consist without sobriety nor in sobriety. It is as godly to laugh as to cry—and godly to do neither in an ungodly way. The theatre, the opera and the dance, now too often possessed by seven devils, are not to be forever pre-empted by the lower world. The day is coming when the play-house will be the gate of Heaven instead of the gate of hell, as it too often is to-day. The dramatic and musical faculties belong to God, in their best development, as they were alleged to belong to Him in the great feast at which the Galileans were won to Jesus.—*Leviston Journal.*

FARMER MURDERED BY HIS SONS.—Mountain Grove, Mo., May 26.—Sunday morning Wayne Anderson, a wealthy farmer of this county, was found murdered here. He attended the Masonic Lodge Saturday night, leaving the hall about 12:30 a. m., and started home, two miles and a half north. He was found Sunday morning lying on his back, shot in the throat and breast. Yesterday, during the Coroner's inquest, two sons of the deceased, Ed. and Henry, and a companion named Ewing Sanders, confessed the crime.

IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED.—Eight of the applicants before the Supreme Court for admission to practice, who were granted further time, to wit, until the 1st of June next, asked to be examined yesterday afternoon, which application was granted, and they were examined by a committee appointed by the Court at once. They passed a very creditable examination, and were complimented by the Chief Justice.

John L. Sullivan will visit Australia and other English colonies professionally.